

Remarks

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the subject matter of Claim 6.

Applicants have also amended Claims 7-17. Applicants respectfully submit no new matter has been added by the present amendment.

Claim Objection

Applicants acknowledge that Claims 6-9 are allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the claim limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-5, 10-12 and 14-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Onizawa (U.S. Patent No. 4,146,689). Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection.

Applicants submit to anticipate a claim, the cited references must teach each and every element of the claimed invention, either explicitly or inherently. Applicants submit the present invention is directed to a process for preparing a filled halobutyl elastomer comprising admixing a halobutyl elastomer, particles of filler and an additive which has at least one hydroxyl group and one basic nitrogen-containing group, and curing the resulting filled brominated butyl elastomer, wherein the additive is an aminoalcohol. Applicants submit Onizawa does not teach each and every element of the claimed invention.

Onizawa discloses a vulcanizable composition comprising a bromobutyl rubber and a specific amino acid (tyrosine, threonine, tryptophan, proline, hydroxyproline, serine, histidine, glycine, glutamic acid, leucine, alanine, phenylalanine, valine, isoleucine, methionine and cysteine). Onizawa, does not teach or suggest a process for preparing a halogenated elastomer (and/or cured halobutyl elastomer composition prepared therefrom) which includes admixing an additive which is an aminoalcohol. Therefore, Applicants submit Onizawa fails to teach each and every element of the claimed invention, and accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

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Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-5, 10-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Onizawa (U.S. Patent No. 4,286,079). Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection.

Applicants incorporate their comments from above.

Onizawa discloses a curable composition comprising a chlorinated polyethylene, a sulfur-curable rubber (such as brominated butyl rubber) with or without a vinyl chloride resin, sulfur with or without a sulfur donor, and at least one amino acid selected from the group consisting of lysine, ornithine, arginine and praline.

Onizawa, does not teach or suggest a process for preparing a halogenated elastomer (and/or cured halobutyl elastomer composition prepared therefrom) which includes admixing an additive which is an aminoalcohol. Therefore, Applicants submit Onizawa fails to teach each and every element of the claimed invention, and accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

Respectfully submitted,

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